

Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 EUR-25 EB-11 OMB-01 CIEP-02 SS-15 NSC-10

DODE-00 SCEM-02 INT-08 IO-12 CIAE-00 PM-09 INR-10

L-03 NEA-10 NSAE-00 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 GAC-01

USIA-12 TRSE-00 MBFR-03 SAJ-01 COME-00 ACDA-19 RSR-01

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3545

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E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: PFOR JA

SUBJECT: INITIAL JAPANESE PRESS COMMENT ON DR. KISSINGER

APRIL 23 SPEECH

SUMMARY: INITIAL LIMITED EDITORIAL COMMENT ON DR. KISSINGER
APRIL 23 AP SPEECH APPEARED IN TOKYO PRESS OVER THREE- DAY
WEEKEND; TONE WAS MIXED, WITH TOKYO SHIMBUN OPEN- MINDED AND
MAINICHI SOMEWHAT NEGATIVE. TOKYO SHIMBUN (APRIL 29 -
EMPEROR' S BIRTHDAY) COMMENTED THAT CONCEPT OFFERED HINTS FOR
JAPANESE DIPLOMACY AND SUGGESTED THAT IT BE STUDIED SERIOUSLY.
HOWEVER, MAINICHI (MAY 1) EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT US DEVELOPED
THIS CONCEPT IN ATTEMPT TO MAINTAIN DOMINANT POSITION IN
RELATIONS WITH EUROPE AND JAPAN. MAINICHI ALSO QUESTIONED
STRESS ON MILITARY ASPECTS AS SEEMING TO CONTRADICT TREND TOWARD
DETENTE, AND ADDED THAT STRESS ON FAIR SHARE OF COMMON DEFENSE
BURDEN MIGHT EVEN TEND TO EXCLUDE JAPANESE PARTICIPATION.
END SUMMARY.

1. TOKYO SHIMBUN HEADED BRIEF OPEN- MINDED EDITORIAL APRIL 29
WITH NOTE THAT DR. KISSINGER SPEECH ABOUT NEW ATLANTIC
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CHARTER CONTAINED MANY HINTS FOR JAPANESE DIPLOMACY, AND CALLED FOR POSITIVE STUDY DURING CURRENT VISIT TO EUROPE BY FONMIN OHIRA. IN FAIR SUMMARY OF DR. KISSINGER'S REMARKS, TOKYO SHIMBUN STATED THAT HE SEEMED TO BE SEEKING MEANS TO DEAL WITH NEW REALITIES WHICH HAVE ARISEN AS RESULT OF RECOVERY OF EUROPE, PROGRESS TOWARD EUROPEAN UNITY, GRADUAL TRANSFORMATION OF EAST- WEST MILITARY BALANCE FROM WESTERN SUPERIORITY TO NEAR- EQUILIBRIUM AND EMERGENCE OF JAPAN AS ECONOMIC POWER. EDITORIAL AGREED ON NECESSITY TO MAKE ADJUSTMENTS BUT POINTED OUT THAT IT MORE DIFFICULT TO REBUILD US- JAPAN RELATIONS ON NEW FOUNDATIONS THAN US- EUROPE RELATIONS. IT ALSO ENDORSED WISDOM OF SEEKING TO ADJUST US- JAPAN RELATIONS WITHIN TRIPARTITE FRAMEWORK DESCRIBED BY DR. KISSINGER, RATHER THAN ON BILATERAL BASIS.

2. MAINICHI, ON OTHER HAND, IN MORE LENGTHY EDITORIAL MAY 1, ASKED SERIES OF QUESTIONS WHICH LEFT IMPRESSION THAT PERSUASIVE EFFORT WOULD BE REQUIRED TO ENLIST ITS SUPPORT FOR NEW ATLANTIC CHARTER CONCEPT. IN INTRODUCTORY PORTION OF EDITORIAL, IT VIEWED SPEECH AS PRELUDE TO HECTIC SUMMER DURING YEAR OF EUROPE, MARKED BY SUMMIT MEETINGS AND INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES SEEKING TO REBUILD CRISIS- RIDDEN TRADE AND ECONOMIC STRUCTURES. IT LISTED FOLLOWING AS MAIN POINTS OF SPEECH: (1) US TO SUPPORT EUROPEAN UNITY; (2) US TO HONOR COMMON DEFENSE COMMITMENT BUT ASKED FOR MORE FAIR SHARING OF BURDEN; (3) US TO CONTINUE EAST- WEST DETENTE POLICY; (4) US DOES NOT VIEW EUROPEAN INTEREST AS EXCLUSIVE ; (5) US TO COOPERATE IN ENERGY MATTERS; AND (6) US WANTS JAPAN TO PARTICIPATE. IT ALSO SAW NEED TO STRENGTHEN ATLANTIC ALLIANCE FROM NEW POINT OF VIEW, CONSIDERING GROWING MISTRUST BETWEEN US AND EUROPE OVER DEVELOPMENT OF EC AS ECONOMIC BLOC, US PROTECTIONISM, DESIRE TO WITHDRAW US FORCES FROM EUROPE, TRADE AND MONETARY ISSUES AND FACT BOTH US AND USSR CONDUCT THEIR DIPLOMACY OVER EUROPEANS HEADS.

3. MAINICHI SPECULATED THAT PRESIDENT WOULD SEEK TO SECURE AGREEMENT OF EUROPEAN LEADERS AND PRIME MINISTER TANAKA IN HIS MEETINGS WITH THEM ON THIS CONCEPT OF ARTICULATING COMMON GOALS IN FORM OF NEW ATLANTIC CHARTER.

4. MAINICHI THEN RAISED SERIES OF QUESTIONS, AFTER STATING LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THAT IT WOULD SET ASIDE PRIOR QUESTION OF WHETHER CONCEPT COULD BE TRANSLATED INTO ACTION, AND IF SO WHETHER IT WOULD BE EFFECTIVE. FIRST, IN VIEW OF STRONG DESIRE EXPRESSED BY

DR. KISSINGER THAT ECONOMIC AND DEFENSE BURDENS BE SHARED FAIRLY, MAINICHI ASKED RHETORICALLY WHETHER THIS WOULD BE POSSIBLE

IN DEFENSE SECTOR IN LIGHT OF EUROPEAN DESIRE TO REDUCE MILITARY EXPENDITURES AS PROGRESS TOWARD DETENTE CONTINUES, AND WHETHER THIS EMPHASIS WOULD ALSO MAKE JAPANESE PARTICIPATION IN NEW FRAMEWORK MOST DIFFICULT. SECOND, GIVEN EXISTENCE OF UN CHARTER, NATO AND US- JAPAN MST, MAINICHI QUESTIONED NEED FOR NEW CHARTER LINKING WESTERN INDUSTRIAL NATIONS WHICH IN 1970 S SHOULD SEEK TO FURTHER ADVANCE EAST- WEST COEXISTENCE AND ELIMINATE GAP BETWEEN ADVANCED NATIONS AND LDCS. MAINICHI SPECULATED THAT COMMUNIST SIDE WOULD VIEW NEW ATLANTIC CHARTER AS WESTERN BLOC, AND THAT LDCS WOULD VIEW IT AS RICH MAN' S CLUB.

5. MAINICHI ALSO NOTED SOME EUROPEAN CRITICISM THAT CALL FOR NEW ATLANTIC CHARTER APPEARED TO BE DESIGNED TO STRENGTHEN US POSITION IN TRADE AND MONETARY DISCUSSIONS, AND ASKED WHETHER US IS TRYING TO SET TONE FOR INTERNATIONAL DISCUSSIONS BY INSISTING ON ACCEPTANCE IN ADVANCE OF ITS OWN PRINCIPLE OF FAIR SHARING.

6. IN CONCLUSION, MAINICHI EXPRESSED RESPECT FOR US INITIATIVE, BUT HOPED THAT MANY QUESTIONS IT RAISED WOULD BE ANSWERED.
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